



VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE GUIDE

This week, November 1-5, 2021, Ranking Member Luetkemeyer joins our nation in celebrating National Veterans Small Business Week. Across the U.S., there are [351,000 veteran-owned businesses](#), and 9 million veterans are part of the civilian labor force. The below resources from the Small Business Administration are available to support veteran-owned businesses and veteran entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurial Development Programs

- The Office of Veterans Business Development (OVBD) administers several management and training programs to assist veteran-owned businesses, including 22 [Veterans Business Outreach Centers](#). These centers provide business counseling and entrepreneurial training programs for transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses.
- Additionally, veteran business owners can receive [free counseling](#) from SCORE, Small Business Development Center, Women's Business Center, or Veterans Business Outreach Center advisers.
- The [Boots to Business program](#) is a two-day, in person entrepreneurship program initiated and offered by the SBA as part of the Department of Defense's Transition Assistance Program (TAP). It offers information about self-employment and business ownership for transitioning service members and military spouses.



Lending Programs

- To increase access to capital opportunities for small businesses, including veteran-owned businesses and veteran entrepreneurs, the SBA offers numerous government-guaranteed loan programs.
- Among the capital access tools is the [7\(a\) Loan program](#). Fees that are built into the program for lenders and small business borrowers could be waived for veteran-owned businesses under certain budgetary environments.
- To assist a small business that may have employees called to active duty in the National Guard, the SBA offers [Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loans \(MREIDL\)](#).

Federal Prime Contracting Programs

- To provide opportunities for small businesses to join the federal marketplace so they may grow and contribute to American economic prosperity and national security, the SBA offers numerous federal contracting programs. The SBA also requires federal agencies to meet certain goaling requirements including 3 percent of annual federal government spending to service-disabled veteran-owned businesses (SDVOSBs).
- The [SDVOSB program](#) is a prime contracting certification program that assists SDVOSBs through the use of set-aside awards, which are contract opportunities specifically reserved only for SDVOSB firms to compete, and sole-source awards, which are contract opportunities awarded exclusively to one SDVOSB firm without competition.

For more information on any of these programs, please visit: <https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/grow-your-business/veteran-owned-businesses>.